

Multi-format, multi-platform multimedia: *The Anatomy Project*

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The Anatomy Project is a series of instructional programs for health science education that use multimedia technologies to combine anatomical and clinical content in an artful manner. The titles of this series are available in a wide variety of formats, including videodisc, videotape, and CD-ROM. In videodisc format, *The Anatomy Project* is a proposed series of twenty-six videodisc titles comprising a comprehensive presentation of clinically-oriented human anatomy. Currently, eight titles of the twenty-six volume series are available: Introduction to Anatomy, The Eye, The Hand, The Heart, The Respiratory Tract, Neuroanatomy 1, Neuroanatomy 2 and Neuroanatomy 3. Each title is a double-sided videodisc (CAV) presenting the information in a variety of ways. Each side of each videodisc contains approximately twenty to twenty-five minutes of video tutorial, organized into three or four chapters of information per side. There is a glossary of terms on each side of each videodisc, and textual summaries of information for each chapter are also presented. Each chapter also presents an atlas and interactive questions with video tutorial remediation of incorrect answers.

The videodiscs of *The Anatomy Project* series can be used with a broad variety of hardware platforms. The information on each videodisc may be accessed at Level I (videodisc player only, no computer) via remote control or barcode workbook (using a barcode-equipped videodisc player). The videodiscs can also be used at Level II (using a program dump from videodisc to a Pioneer LDV6000 series or LDV8000 player, no computer). In Level II use, the program dump from the videodisc to the player has the effect of transforming the remote control unit into a "super remote", which accesses menus of information on the videodisc and enables the user to navigate through the information using these menus. Level III use involves computer control of the videodisc player, and there is a wide range of Level III options for use of *The Anatomy Project* videodiscs. Level III computer software is available for use on

Macintosh computers using a two-screen system (computer monitor and videodisc monitor are separate), DOS computers using two screens, and Windows systems using either one or two screens.

The titles of *The Anatomy Project* series are also available on VHS videotape format. This allows delivery of the educational material using low-cost, available videotape players. The content of each title is covered in from five to eight videotapes, which provides the user more rapid access to selected topics.

The systems described above for *The Anatomy Project* use a videodisc or videotape player as the primary tool for delivery of the information. The newest delivery format for the titles of *The Anatomy Project* series is CD-ROM. The CD-ROM versions of *The Anatomy Project* titles are delivered using a multimedia computer system comprising CPU, monitor, CD-ROM drive and speakers. Navigation through the information in the digital adaptation of *The Anatomy Project* series is similar to the Level III Macintosh control software. For each title, there are seven or eight chapter tutorials, each of which presents between four to eight minutes of audio, still images and motion video. Textual summaries of tutorial information are also available. The high quality digital movie-based tutorials are one of the features that distinguishes *The Anatomy Project* from other CBI programs for human anatomy. There is a glossary of terms that provides for easy searching for words. An interactive atlas for each chapter presents labeled still images. By clicking on any labeled structure, the user can access tutorial or textual information about that structure. Interactive questions provide tutorial remediation of incorrect answers. The screen layout and user interface of the CD-ROM versions of *The Anatomy Project* were adapted and modified from the Level III Macintosh videodisc control software in order to accommodate the combination of still and motion video images, text, and navigation controls on the same screen.